

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, RIVERSIDE



JANUARY—MARCH 2011

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CSDR Veteran Named “CAL-ED Teacher of the Year”

2011 CAL-ED/ IMPACT Conference: Teresa McDonald-Fishler is a Teacher at California School for the Deaf, Riverside where she has worked for over 31 years. She arrived at CSDR immediately after she got her M.A. in Education from Gallaudet College in 1980. She is well loved and respected by her students and the staff on campus. A devoted educator, she can often be found working in her classroom long after everyone else has left. Teresa has predominately taught reading to generations of CSDR students as well as a number of other subjects. She has been a master teacher for quite a number of student teachers including one this semester. Teresa is a native of Maine and proud to be a die-hard Boston Red Sox fan. In her awards ceremony speech, Teresa 'McFish' as we all fondly called her, expressed that “receiving the award was a real honor and I very much appreciated it, but I already feel very lucky because I am rewarded daily with my students' smiles and successes”.



*Middle School Teacher Teresa McDonald-Fishler,
CAL-ED 2011 Teacher of the Year*

Coming May 6-7!



★ See EXPO, page 2

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Teresa Maxwell

Anita Metroka

Tammy Mitchell

Nancy Moore

Alexa Ontiveros

Tanya Polstra

Nanci Shrager

Paula Van Winkle

Mary Visco

Special Thanks:

Alyce Berard

Becky Crawford

Neva Turoff

Message from Mal

CSDR was fortunate this month to have not one, but two opportunities to highlight the wonderful educational environment that exists at our school.

First, we were honored by a visit from the newly appointed State Superintendent Tom Torlakson, and Dr. William Ellerbee, Administrator of the Special Services Branch of the California



Student Panel with Superintendent Torlakson

Department of Education. Several of our high school students served on a panel to share with Supt. Torlakson their personal experiences with education at CSDR as opposed to attending a mainstream program within their local school districts. We were happy to share our insight and educational philosophy with Supt. Torlakson and look forward to having a positive ongoing partnership with him in future.

Second, we gathered the entire school together for our annual "Celebration of Success" where we shared the successes that have occurred at CSDR within this school year. This special event included presentations and a movie highlighting the activities of each department. Additionally, the high school students treated the audience to literature story-signing performances. All of the students, regardless of their age, enjoyed learning more about CSDR's student life accomplishments and the academic successes that have occurred across campus. Events such as this serve to motivate and inspire staff, students, and visitors alike.

Even as the year draws to a close, our staff and students are spreading the word that CSDR is the place to be – where language and learning thrive!

~ Mal

Upcoming Expo at CSDR, May 6 and 7

The DeafNation Expo is held for the first time outdoors on CSDR's front lawn by the main entrance. The event will be a two-day extravaganza. Available for viewing are the latest in Deaf technology, products, services, attractions, educational supplies, and other useful information on Deaf culture, history, and programs in southern California. The event will host over 100 vendor booths, a huge food pavilion, a whimsical Kids Zone, campus tours, movie screenings, games, entertainment stage performances with special guest appearances, raffle drawings, and much, much more.

We invite you and your entire family, friends and all members of the Southern California community to come out and support CSDR and DeafNation for the first ever event of its kind.

Get your tickets today for only \$5 for your chance to win Mega Prizes, Courtesy of Best Buy!

For tickets, contact Rodney Ewan at rewan@csdr-cde.ca.gov

Stay tuned for more information about the DeafNation Expo at: <http://csdr-cde.ca.gov/expo> and become a Facebook Friend: [csdrexpo](https://www.facebook.com/csdrexpo)

~ Gloria Daniels, DeafNation Expo Co-coordinators

CSDR Intern Teachers

This year, CSDR has been fortunate to have five interns in our Instruction Division. As part of an internship program, interns spend time observing the classroom instructor and getting to know the students. They eventually assist in classroom instruction with the assistance of the master teacher. All of our interns this year have done an outstanding job! They have become a very important part of our CSDR family! A special "thank you" to all of our Master Teachers for the time that they give to work with our interns!

1) Interning with Master Teacher, Mrs. Lisa Chute and Mrs. Lynn Aponte in Middle School: is Jared Katakua from Hawaii. He is completing his post baccalaureate certificate from Michigan State University in Deaf Education. He is an avid surfer and spear diver. He also was on the Soccer Team for the Deaflympics. 2) Interning with Master Teacher Mrs. Teresa McDonald-Fishler in Middle School: Amy Kimmerle is from McDaniel College, with a B.A. in History, and pursuing a Masters in Deaf Education. She worked at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf for the past four years. 3) Interning with Master teacher Tammie Bervel in Elementary: Sarah Gordon is a graduate student at UC San Diego in the Deaf Education Department. She is a graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology and was a Deaf Education Volunteer in Kenya for the Peace Corps for two years. 4) Interning with Mary Visco In ECE: Shanna Grossinger is a graduate student at UC San Diego in the Deaf Education Department. She has a B.A. in History from Gallaudet University where she was a tutor and resident advisor. 5) Interning with Master Teacher Mr. Donald Cochran: John Lydiate is pursuing a graduate degree in Deaf Education

from CSU, Fresno. He is originally from Dunedin, New Zealand and signs New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL).

We enjoy your work here, and thank you for bringing your wonderful ideas to our school!

~ Nanci Shrager, Special Projects Supervisor



Jared Katakua and his girlfriend Akiko who came and taught World History class some Japanese Sign Language



Sarah Gordon assisting 1st graders in a performance

Did You Know? Sharing 1-11-11 Birthdays

On 1-11-11, two CSDR staff members had their baby sons born at the same Riverside Kaiser Hospital, next door to each other. Technology specialist Rene Visco's wife gave birth to their fourth deaf baby Lino Visco. The Credential Analyst, Rachel Armstrong, begat her firstborn, Colin Armstrong. May the number '1' always bring fortune to these CSDR babies!

This year in 2011, we experience 4 unusual dates: 1.1.11 ~ 1.11.11 ~ 11.1.11 ~ 11.11.11

Now, take the LAST 2 digits of the year you were born + the AGE you will be this year. And it will equal = 111!

For young children born in this millennium, their sum will be = 11!



Lino Visco



Colin Armstrong

Read Across America

Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for students in every community to celebrate reading on the birthday of children's author Dr. Seuss. On Wednesday, March 2, the ECE and Elementary Departments invited Jeannette Zarembka's sophomore Language Arts class to come share some stories written by Dr. Seuss. The students selected *The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins*, *A Fish Out of Water* and *The Butter Battle*. Each book was acted out while the story was projected on the big screen for the students to view. After the books were read, some classes stayed on to read their own books. The high school students

went around to each group of students and read with them. That following evening, Elementary ASL Teacher Shari Kido read aloud Dr. Seuss' books at Barnes and Noble for deaf and hearing children and their families. It was a fun way to celebrate the day!

~ Melissa Brown, Curriculum Specialist



High school students reading with elementary students

Fun at Speech Village

CSDR Speech Village is made up of several different stores and restaurants: This year, we have Mc Donald's, Elliott's Pet Store, Dairy Queen, Home Depot and Target. Its purpose is to give our speech students an opportunity to use their speech skills in real life situations. For each venue, the student's role play "the worker" and "the customer." For example, when portraying "the worker" at the pet store, a student may ask the customer, "May I help you?" "The customer" might reply, "Yes, I want to see your rabbits, please." The students can reply in their most comfortable mode of non signing communication such as speaking, gesturing, or writing.

Our students focus on the skills that are most appropriate for

their individual abilities. They work toward improvement in any or all of the following skills: speech reading, listening, speaking, pragmatics (social skills), counting money and giving/receiving appropriate change and finally, writing, to communicate with non-signing individuals (with emphasis on spelling and English grammar).

Speech Village is open to all ECE and elementary students. Students are so excited to use Speech Village. They are motivated, they have fun, and they make tremendous progress in the areas they are working on. The ECE students practice their skills in the speech office and then go on an "outing" to Speech Village to practice their skills in realistic settings. For the 3rd, 4th and 5th graders, Speech Village work culminates in a field



trip to the real-life version of the Speech Village venue, where a great time is had by all!

~ Joanie Jackson and Wendy Green, Speech Language Pathologists

CSDR With Most Wins in National ASL Contest

It is our immense pleasure to make a special announcement that our CSDR students and staff members participated in the Marie Jean Philip ASL Poetry, Storytelling, and Deaf Art Competition 2011. The competition serves two purposes: to honor the memory of Marie Jean Philip, an advocate in facilitating the growth of ASL, and to recognize our Deaf students' creativity and talent. Three categories exist in this competition: ASL Poetry, Storytelling, and Deaf Art. Competition participants must qualify in any of the following groupings: Ages 8 & under, Ages 9-12, Ages 13-18, Open Competition, and Special Needs. Fourteen different schools participated in the competition. Our twelve students from Elementary, Middle, and High schools, and deaf staff members

participated! You can view the video of their ASL poetry, storytelling and Deaf Art on our CSDR website, <http://csdr-cde.ca.gov/2011/04/03/marie-jean-philip-asl-and-deaf-art-competition-2011/>

Please congratulate all of our contestants! Send our thanks to Elementary ASL teacher Shari Kido for her hard work to make the competition happen, as well as to Becky Gage and Kerry Hile for their support.

~ Teresa Maxwell, Curriculum Specialist



Jacey Coons-Poetry: 1st place



Zarek Nathanson-Poetry: 2nd place



Teresa Maxwell-Poetry: 2nd place



Nicole Aguirre-Poetry: 3rd place



Jarita Bustamante-Storytelling: 1st place



Reagan Anders-Storytelling: 1st place



Mavrick Fisher-Storytelling: 3rd place



Elijah Andrade-Deaf Art: 1st place



Steven Carranco-Deaf Art: 1st place

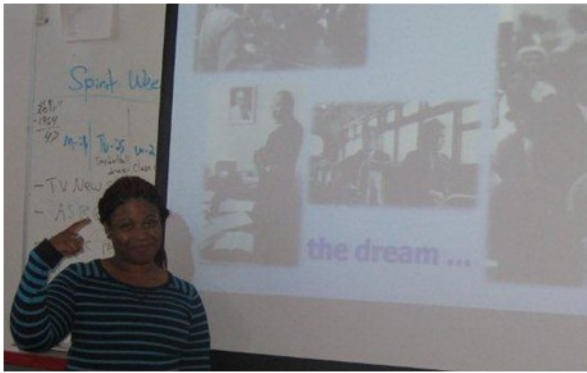


Mary Visco-Deaf Art: 1st place



Misseal Cordova-Deaf Art: 2nd place

Black History Month Celebrated by HS Students



black deaf people such as Claudia Gordon and Andrew Foster. The students enjoyed the presentation so much that they demanded more

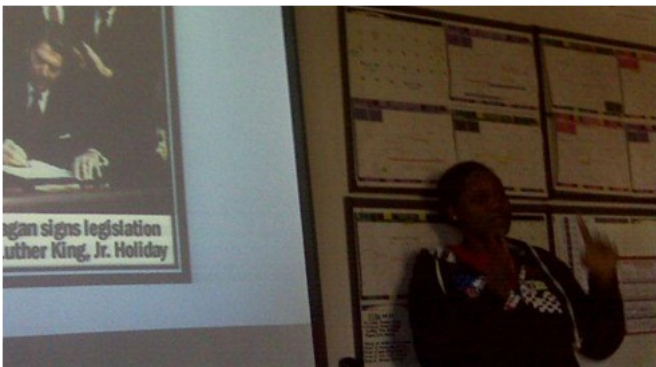


January was the month of Black Deaf History. The high school Social Studies classes hosted a special Black Deaf History event, inviting all high school students to attend to the presentation at the Bummy Student Center. Five students joined the teachers in a presentation on Martin Luther King, Jr. and successful

information. We also had a mini-discussion and mini-role play about racism and segregation. All of the students were motivated and fully engaged in the activities. One most touching activity was holding hands together in a circle. The students did a fantastic job with debating and defending using non-violent

their time to share the history of the black leaders who fought for a better life for everyone: Dominique Yeboah, Devon Esclovon, Michael Mitchell, Effie Peters, and Quincy Pitts.

~ HS Social Studies Teachers



behavior. We would like to recognize those students who offered



Colors of the Rainbow—Elementary Special Needs

During the month of March, our students had so much fun learning about the rainbow and colors. We did lot of hands-on activities. The students painted flowers using the palm of their hands, and realized that not all flowers looked exactly the same. They also made their own tie dye t-shirts, with an opportunity to wear it all day at school! We proudly represent that we are not only special, but we've got spirit!

~ Tanya Polstra and Carmen Croasmun, Elementary Special Needs Teachers



CSDR Children Send Relief to Japanese Victims

CSDR students responded with relief aid to the Deaf families in Japan, who are suffering from the March 11 earthquake and tsunamis. While fundraising, the children learned more about Japan and the value of helping others in need.

During the weeks of March 16-25, the Kindergarten team collected money to donate to the deaf families in Japan.

Money went to the Japanese Federation of the Deaf, through the help of the Deaf-run H3.tv website. The students gave presentations to everybody they met, including a V-Log online of how Sigridura Junc hopes that this donation inspires the suffering families. The class raised and donated a total of \$670.30.



"This has been such an amazing experience for the Kindergarten class. We even shared emotions by meeting one of the cafeteria workers who is Japanese and has a family in Japan – she shared unfortunate stories about what has been occurring in Japan", says Kindergarten teacher Mary Visco.

On March 31, fifth graders held a Japanese Exhibit that included: Japanese Language, Clothing, Games, Religion, Education, and Sports. Other exhibits were: Quick Facts about Japan, Origami, and Food. The students worked for about one week on their specific area of Japanese life. Each pair of students was responsible for making a book or poster and sharing their knowledge with our visitors. Prior to the opening of the exhibit at 8:30 a.m. in the Social Hall, students excitedly set up their final products.

As each group of visitors arrived, one student gave the welcome/opening commentary - a short explanation of where Japan is, what natural disasters recently happened there, and

how that country and its people have been affected. The visitors moved from one exhibit to the next absorbing all the knowledge our students were imparting. At the origami section the visitors learned how to make a cat or dog in the ancient art of paper folding. They played with the various games at the game section. The students in the food exhibit relayed some information about Japanese food then taught the visitors how to eat

using chopsticks. Next the visitors were invited to partake of some sticky rice, an almost constant addition to any traditional Japanese meal. Our visitors were able to put their newfound knowl-

edge to the test as they attempted to eat their sticky rice with a pair of these wooden sticks! They sat on pillows on the floor (some even took off their shoes!) following Japanese tradition. Tidbits of seaweed were among the delicacies our visitors enjoyed. A CSDR parent, Satoshi Nakama, expertly made some Sushi for our

exhibit. This tasty portion of Japanese cuisine was sold to increase the profit for our needy friends across the Pacific. What a delicious treat that was!! The visitors were also given a sweet Japanese treat – a cookie-stick dipped in chocolate. Yum!

This event of international proportions netted us over fifty dollars in the economic endeavor to help our islander friends. Our students learned a wealth of information about Japan and received a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction in knowing it was all a job very well done. The visitors were quite impressed with our students work and knowledge of their subject matter. And, of course, we teachers are very proud of them, too.

We have many thanks to give: our students for their hard work; our visitors without whom our students would have no one to share their expertise; Mr. Satoshi Nakama/sushi chef; and all who gave donations to a wonderful cause.

~ Anita Metroka, and the Fifth Grade Team

National Math Competition with Deaf Schools and Programs

Honor Roll: Middle School/ High School

4.0 GPA

Aguilar-Calderon,
Angel (HS)
Berrigan, Bridget (MS)
Carrillo, Andrew (HS)
Fisher, Mavrick (MS)
Keogh, Brianna (MS)
Romero, Catalina (MS)
Smith, Alana (MS)
Tinio, Raymart (HS)

3.5-3.99 GPA

Aguirre, Wendy (MS)
Arias, Celeste (HS)
Caboteja, Jeanyssa (HS)
Castaneda, Franklin (HS)
Garcia, April (HS)
Lesti, Dylan (MS)
Liwig, Jeric (HS)
Murphy, Montana (HS)
Pedro, Fabiana (HS)
Reyes, Carlos (MS)
Roques, Jennifer (MS)
Vega, Hazel (HS)
Warshaw, Jeremy (HS)

HS Perfect Attendance:

Carrillo, Andrew
Conde, Amanda
Dimayuga, Erick
Granados, Erick
Hernandez, Miriam
Pitts, Quincy
Warshaw, Jeremy

HS Student Organizations Recognition:

Ian Vasquez
Alexa Ontiveros

HS Best Employee:

Brenton Ausness
Juan Alvarado
Melissa Matute
Noemi Dominguez
Raymart Tinio

HS Best Residential Student :

Sean Woodson

At the 4th annual RIT/NTID* Math Competition on April 9, Alana Smith, Bridget Berrigan, and Brianna Keogh showed our school pride with other 27 deaf and mainstream schools by winning 5th place on a first time visit . Congratulations to the Middle School math department for preparing the students well. We look forward to having our middle school students participate in this competition every year.

*Rochester Institute of Technology / National Technical Institution for the Deaf, NY- the world' s largest technical college for deaf students.

~ Darrin Green, Curriculum Specialist



Always Follow Directions

Congratulations, First Grade, Room 108, on the success of the world premiere of "Little Red Riding Hood's Valentine's Day". The play starred Monserrat Murillo (Little Red Riding Hood) and Bree Goldstein (the Wolf). It also featured an Oscar-nominated supporting cast: Cody Pennington (the Father) , Kendra Cogswell (the Grandmother), and Odtoniel Riquelme (the Narrator and the Hunter). Poor Grandmother was very sick on Valentine's Day. Sweet Little Red Riding Hood decided to bring her Valentine cookies and cards to help her feel better. Father warned not to talk to

strangers, but Little Red Riding Hood did NOT follow directions! The Wolf almost ate her! Fortunately at the last minute, a very brave and strong Hunter came to the rescue and taught everyone how important it is remember that Character Counts!

~ Tammie Bervel, 1st Grade Teacher



1st Grade Class performs "Little Red Riding Hood"

Honor Roll: Middle School/ High School

3.0-3.49 GPA

Aguilar, Malene (MS)
Aguilera, Elizabeth (MS)
Aguirre, Wayne (MS)
Alcocer, Anita (HS)
Alva, Juan (MS)
Alvarado, Juan (HS)
Arguelles, Cynthia (HS)
Atkinson, Claudia(HS)
Barrios, Miguel (HS)
Buchanan, Michael (HS)
Bustamante, Jarita (MS)
Capozi, Trystany (MS)
Carranco, Steven (HS)
Cochran, Jaleña (MS)
Dean, Jamze (MS)
Evans, Mary (HS)
Flores, Juan (HS)
Frias, Melissa (MS)
Gallegos, Amanda (HS)
Garcia, Ignacio (HS)
Garcia, Kevin (HS)
Gonzales, Steven (HS)
Huang, Kevin (HS)
Huezo, Jacob (MS)
Lange, Jules (HS)
Lopez, Kathleen (MS)
Macias, Carlos (HS)
Manu, Sisilia (HS)
Miller, Jacques (HS)
Mitchell, Michael (HS)
Montes, Cristian (HS)
Muller, Alexandra (MS)
Murphy, Miranda (MS)
Nguyen, Hai (HS)
Ontiveros, Alexa (HS)
Padilla, Diana (HS)
Padilla, Sabrina (MS)
Petersen, Chloe (MS)
Pitts, Quincy (HS)
Ramos, Pua-Lei (HS)
Resendiz, Jose (HS)
Rivas, Cesar (HS)
Rivas, Marilyn (HS)
Sanchez, Giovanni (MS)
Schoonover, Edward (HS)
Spadaccini, Amanda (HS)
Tellez, Clemente (HS)
Terrado, Kenneth J. (HS)
Vu, Christina (MS)
Wence, Lesly (MS)
Yeboah, Dominique (HS)
Yepez, Calyssa (MS)

Winter Feast Prepared by Special Needs Students



February 10 saw another successful Special Need's Annual Winter Feast. The food was excellent and the service provided by our students was great. Family, staff, and community members attended our event, proving this year to be our biggest Winter Feast yet.

Every year our students host a Winter Feast in the Social Hall to encourage family, community, and other staff members to participate in the students

learning and educational experience. This annual event provides this opportunity for family and community members to interact and socialize with our students, as well as provide them a chance to see our students socialize and work together as a team.

This year communication was the primary focus for our students during the Feast. The students became waiters and had to take menu orders from staff members in ASL, as well as communicate with hearing family and community members using communication cards to take their orders. This group also had to communicate with another group of students that were the chefs to make sure the recipient

order was correct.

These students diligently worked on a daily basis for three months to plan and prepare the Winter Feast. We have seen great strides of improvement throughout this time. The day of our event ended just perfect with all the positive comments our students received on their performance. It was great pleasure to see family members learning more signs to communicate with our students.

~ High School Special Needs Team



Battle of the Californias - Special Olympics in Bowling

On the weekend of January 28, 2011 the Special Needs Area had our annual Special Olympics Bowling Tournament against our sister school, California School for the Deaf, Fremont. This year we hosted the event and were proud to show off our new cottages and MAC building. Each year at the "Battle of the Californias" bowling tournament we have a face off between supervisors. This year Peter Stecher, Supervising

Counselor for CSDR Special Needs Students brought home the trophy for "Best Bowler" between the supervisors. During the bowling tournament there was friendly competition, true sportsmanship and a wonderful spirit of unity. Prior to the competition we took our visitors and our students to Hollywood to see the Walk of Fame, Graumans's Chinese Theater, and Madaam Tussauds Wax

would have expected the figures to come to life. The day was absolutely gorgeous which made the trip to Hollywood even better. Everyone had a wonderful time and we are all looking forward to our next event. A special "Thank You" is being sent to all who had a hand in making this event possible. Our staff and students are deeply grateful for your kindness and assistance. CSDR is the best!

~ Andrew Bubeck, Residential Life Supervisor



Museum. The museum was an incredible experience. We had the opportunity to look at life-like wax figures of famous people. It was so realistic that you



Monthly Deaf Celebrations and Workshops

September:
Deafhood

October:
CSDR Alumni/
History

November:
Deaf Community/
Advocacy

December:
Deaf Heritage

January:
Deaf Black History

February:
Deaf Women History

March:
Deaf President Now
(DPN)

April:
ASL Literature

May:
Deaf Hispanic

June:
Deaf Minority Groups

Beth Benedict

Beth S. Benedict, Ph.D., is a professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Gallaudet

University, Washington, D.C., and is the president of the American Society for Deaf Children. She has focused for years on family involve-

ment in schools with deaf and hard of hearing children, early childhood education, advocacy, early communication and partnerships between deaf and hearing



Beth Benedict with Jaclyn Vincent's 4th Grade Class

professionals, and early intervention. Beth majored in Psychology when obtaining her Bachelor's Degree from Gallaudet in 1980

See DEAF WOMEN page 11

Deaf President Now—Tim Rarus

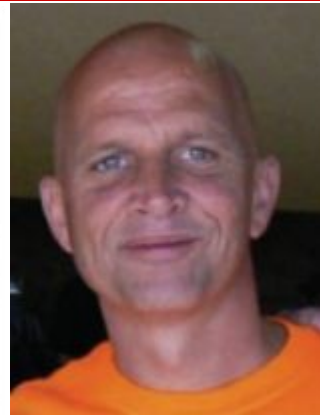
Tim Rarus, who was born and raised in Connecticut, was enrolled at California School for the Deaf, Riverside for one year while his mom was attending California State University, Northridge

(CSUN.) Later, he and his mom moved back to Connecticut. Subsequently, they moved to Arizona where he finally graduated. He attended Gallaudet University and graduated. He got married to a woman named Brandi and they have 4 kids, one girl and three boys.

It's like we went back in time to 1988, when Gallaudet University was involved in a protest to have a deaf president. The outgoing student at Gallaudet, Tim Rarus,



Tim Rarus, DPN Historic Student Leader, 1988 and Now



was the leader of the protest. He came to the California School for the Deaf, Riverside, to give a presentation on his experience during the Deaf President

Now protest. It

was a wonderful experience for the students to hear his story and what he had been through during that time.

After the presentation was finished, all of the students went outside and marched around the Brill building field, and experienced the concept of the protest that the students back at that time were involved in, to see what it was like to demonstrate for a deaf president. Tim Rarus has always been remembered as one of the most outspoken students during that historical event.



MJ Bienvenu

MJ Bienvenu graduated from Louisiana School for the Deaf and received her B.A. degree in English in 1974 and an M.A. degree in Linguistics in 1983 both from Gallaudet University. She completed her Ph.D. degree in Linguistics from Union Institute and University in 2003. She did not initially believe that American Sign Language was an official language until she became a student at Gallaudet. This discovery of ASL as a language led her to a lifelong career in ASL and Deaf Studies, in which field she is currently a professor at Gallaudet University. She strongly believes that ASL is a language and that being bilingual in ASL and English is an important asset to have as a deaf person. This is the message that she sends to her students as well as in her presentations when she travels in the United States and abroad.

On January 7th and 8th, she gave five wonderful presentations here at CSDR. Her first presentation was

to a group of students in the Leadership class during 8th period, where she explained the importance of leadership in the deaf community. She gave presentations to the



*MJ Bienvenu, Ph.D.,
Gallaudet Professor*

high school students as well as workshops for elementary and

middle school students. One topic she addressed is shoulder tapping. She explained that different types of shoulder tapping have different meanings. For example, a light push on the back indicates that he or she wants you to move, or a fast tap on the shoulder indicates that the message is important and needs immediate attention as in, "Hurry up, I need you to look at me!" Her last two presentations were to the staff at CSDR as well as to the outside community. We all now have a better understanding of her philosophy in ASL and Deaf Studies.

~ Craig Long, HS Student

DEAF WOMEN (cont'd from page 10)

after graduating from Maryland School for the Deaf in 1976. She completed her Masters in Counseling from New York University in 1980, and eventually a Ph.D. in Education from Gallaudet University in 2003. Beth is married to Dwight Benedict and they have two deaf daughters, Rachel (21), a senior and Lauren, (20), a sophomore, both at Gallaudet University. Dr. Benedict visited the school and gave two presentations—one for the students on ABC stories, and one for staff, parents, and the community on how we can more effectively work together toward student success. To the students, Beth explained how ABC stories, a specific genre of poetry in American Sign Language, come with a set of rules. She gave some good examples of those rules, while showing sample videotaped clips of excellent models by other Deaf ASL

poets.

During the after school hours, Dr. Benedict shared many innovative ideas and experiences, including how to work with the hearing mainstream, increase family



*Elementary Principal and Lead Teacher
review information on historic Deaf
women, prepared by Dr. Benedict*

involvement and volunteers, and how to teach ASL to families who live far away. We enjoyed the fresh ideas from such an experienced professional and volunteer!

Bilingual Expectations—ASL is as Important as English

In January, CSDR sent two staff members, Teresa Maxwell and Shari Kido to ASL Roundtable (ASLRT), which was hosted by Austin Community College and Texas School for the Deaf (TSD). ASLRT was a working conference focusing on corpus planning under the Language Planning Framework. Each participant had a chance to group and share Learner 1 (L1) resources. Sean Virnig, Director of Instruction at TSD, presented the concept of organizational



renowned for their expertise in deaf education, language and literacy development, and ASL assessment; as well as administrators, teachers, and specialists at three elementary and secondary schools for the deaf.

Individual members of the unique coalition that is receiving the contract are from Boston University; University of Manitoba; University of California, San Diego; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; **California School for**

the Deaf-Riverside; Indiana School for the Deaf in Indianapolis, Indiana; and The Learning Center for the Deaf in Framingham, Massachusetts.

cycle. He also pointed out that “Deaf Education has been taken away from us and what saves it is language planning! We used ‘Professional Learning Communities’ to discuss and work together toward what is best for our Deaf students. Todd Czubek, one of the presenters, a doctorate student at Boston University, explained about his work, ASL Instructional Guide, which ensures an approach to corpus planning because this involves linguistic, acquisition and academic needs in the scope and sequence. He also mentioned that we bilinguals are accountable for two languages.

Students need to understand both ASL and English as separate and equal parts of language programming. Different schools gave their examples of incorporating ASL in their curriculum (i.e. i-comic, computer programs, assessment). Participants worked together by discussing and exchanging materials and best practices of L1 from their schools. Everyone left ASLRT wearing big smiles!

~ Teresa Maxwell , Curriculum Specialist

Clerc Center Announces Contract Award for Development of American Sign Language Content Standards for Grades K-12

WASHINGTON, DC — February 7, 2011 — The Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center at Gallaudet University (Clerc Center) today announced it has awarded a contract for the development of American Sign Language (ASL) content standards for students in grades K-12. These content standards will outline the ASL skills that students should have at each grade level. The recipient of the contract is an innovative team composed of university-based researchers

“The development of ASL content standards is a key component in our ongoing efforts to facilitate linguistic competence for deaf and hard of hearing students in both ASL and English,” said Clerc Center vice president Ed Bosso. “The importance of this work cannot be overstated and is vital to the academic and linguistic development of deaf and hard of hearing students. The Clerc Center is privileged and honored to be able to provide the necessary support for this work.”

The Clerc Center will provide periodic updates regarding the progress of the development of ASL content standards. The target date for nationwide dissemination of the final ASL content standards is early 2013. For more information about this contract, the award recipients, and a video of this announcement in ASL, visit http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/asl_standards.xml.

The Clerc Center provides information, training, and technical assistance for parents and professionals to meet the needs of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Our mission is to improve the quality of education afforded to deaf and hard of hearing students from birth to age 21 throughout the United States.

Empowering Parents to Embrace American Sign Language

Our school celebrates the newly released DVD, for which we helped consult, "Through Your Child's Eyes: American Sign Language" that empowers parents to embrace the value and beauty of ASL for deaf children! The California Department of Education (CDE) contracted with CSUN to create a DVD about the beauty and value of ASL. CDE wants to support the rights of parents to make informed decisions and to know

that sign language supports and enhances speech development, according to research.

Representatives from California Schools for the Deaf worked together on the ASL DVD Oversight Committee led by Andrew Laufer, Education Administrator for the CDE Special Services and Support Branch, along with staff Nancy Sager and John Paris-Salb. CSDR staff included Yoon Lee, Janice Smith-Warshaw, Erika Thompson, and Rene Visco. Some families from CSDR were filmed, showing the easy and natural interaction between parents and children through American Sign Language.

This ASL DVD will hopefully help raise Deaf Education to a new level when future students come to school prepared with a full language, ready to learn.

Tony Ronco, a parent of a deaf child, once said that when he and his wife Jenny were presented with their options, they felt like they were being asked if they wanted soup or salad. And they said YES, we want soup AND salad. "This is the same for giving deaf children ASL and

THROUGH YOUR CHILD'S EYES: AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE



Parent Resources:

Deaf Education and Families Project –

<http://www.csun.edu/deafproject>

Parent Links –

<http://myparentlinks.com>

California Department of Education/Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing –

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ss/dh>

American Society for Deaf Children –

<http://www.deafchildren.org>

Hands and Voices –

<http://www.handsandvoices.org>

Office of Deaf Access/State of California –

<http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/PG>

National Association of the Deaf –

<http://www.nad.org>

California School for the Deaf, Riverside –

<http://csdr-cde.ca.gov>

To view the movie, go to this website:

<http://throughyourchildseyes.com>, or the

English, speech, and whatever else", said Nancy Sager, CDE Deaf and Hard of Hearing Programs Consultant.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the time has come to start telling the story of American Sign Language... Together, we have overcome many obstacles to create a powerful message that provides hope to parents of newborn deaf or hard of hearing children so that they celebrate their birth as much as any parent celebrates the birth of a

child," Andrew Laufer shared at the movie premiere event.

CAL-ED honored Laufer with the Administrator of the Year award that is given to only one administrator in the state, for his work in leading the creation of this ASL DVD. Andrew acknowledged at the CAL-ED award ceremony, "how important and valuable it was for me to be educated by the Deaf Community. It is because of the deliberate attempts from people in the Deaf community to inform me about Deaf issues, my own growing interest in the field, and the unfailing guidance I received from practitioners in Deaf Education (sometimes not so pleasant) that I had the perspective

necessary to move this project forward. Policy makers at all levels need to be educated about Deaf issues if there is going to be meaningful, lasting, and positive changes in society's view of the Deaf community."

If you know parents out there, share the good news!



CDE (Andrew Laufer, Nancy Sager), CSUN (Lauren Maucere, Rachel Friedman-Narr, Roz Rosen, Ellen Schneideman, Barb Matusky), and CSDR (Erika Thompson), at the CSUN premiere Friday, February 11, 2011.

Student Health Spokesperson

As second semester started, many of the high school students were sick with colds. Some of them got better and returned to school for a few days then got sick again. As an effort to reduce the possibility of spreading colds on the campus, student Raymond Nelson was selected as a "spokesperson for CSDR" to be videotaped in order to inform all students about how to prevent themselves from getting colds. Each student involved in the video project will address different types of health issues to raise student awareness.. These include missing breakfast, junk food, soft drinks, obesity, among other issues that arise or are a major concern among the students on campus. Each health issue is videotaped weekly and shared with the students on campus. Students can now try to prevent or minimize their risk of becoming sick and increase their awareness on how to stay healthy.



Raymond Nelson, Student Health Spokesperson

Tips to prevent colds

- Wash hands with soaps and warm/hot water after you cough or sneeze on your hands, blow nose, or pick your nose (well, some do!)
- Use instant sanitizer if you are not near the sink
- Limit contact with people who have colds
- Rest well and eat healthy foods
- Drink plenty of water
- Stay warm!



Middle School Hoopers

I am extremely proud to announce that our Middle School basketball program is generating a lot of upbeat reports throughout our CSDR campus!

Our girls have won ALL their games with 10 wins and no losses! They will definitely enter the playoffs on May 4

Our boys have won their 4th game in a row and possibility will play in the playoffs!

It is a fact that I cannot wait to see our Middle school girls and boys advance to play for the High School sports program!

Go Riverside!

~ Nancy Moore,

ECE/Elementary/MS Sports Coordinator



High School Basketball Achievements

4th annual NDIAA Winter Sports committee recognized the excellent Deaf schools and fine and deserving athletes for their hard work, dedication, and achievements. The award for the Boys Basketball Player of the Year went to our Raymond Nelson at the California School for the Deaf, Riverside.



Nelson exceeded 1,000 basketball points

NDIAA "Over the years, Nelson has accumulated 1000 scoring points in his basketball career at CSDR. Join CSDR in congratulating Raymond Nelson on accomplishing this difficult, but phenomenal feat that will not be matched for a long time!" writes Mike Anderson, HS Student Organizations Coordinator.

Riverside's Raymond Nelson and Shani Ambrester, who competed in the



Shani Ambrester, a valuable player

CIF Playoffs, received Deaf Sports Digest's All American honors.

CSDR Girls Basketball, led by Ambrester, won their personal first CIF-SS playoff by beating Baptist

Christian with two overtime sessions, 44 - 43.

For the 4th time in school history, our girls basketball advanced in the 2nd round. The first was in 1981, followed by 1986, then 1991. CSDR girls finally won in the 1st round of CIF-SS playoff since 1991. In 1981, Nancy Moore, current Sports Coordinator for middle school, was a player on that team. In 1986, Mary Angoorani, current middle school lead teacher, was a player.

USADB East/West High School All Stars: Our basketball players, Shani Ambrester and Raymond Nelson, played on the USA Deaf basketball High School All Stars in Bloomington, Minnesota on April 1st. Chris Vega was on the waiting list. For more information, check www.usadb.us. Hands-waving to all those individuals!

~ David Hamilton, Athletic Director

2011 WSBC Results in Salt Lake City, Utah:

Boys- 2nd place

Girls- 2nd place

Cheer- 3rd place

All Stars:

Raymond Nelson - 1st team

Chris Vega - 1st team

Shani Ambrester - 1st team

Diamond Thompson- 1st team

Eddie Schoonover- 2nd team

Brittany Goodman- 2nd team

All Stars for Cheerleading:

Marilyn Rivas- 1st team

Ian Vasquez - 2nd team

I'm proud of our boys and girls for displaying their best behavior and representing CSDR well. We remained calm, poised, and positive. They displayed the importance of character counts. Please take time to congratulate them. In addition, "hands waving" to our coaching staff for their tireless effort and commitment for excellence. The coaching staff - Reagan Anders, Jerome Bevinetto, Jason Coleman, Gloria Daniels, Stacey Hausman, Franklin Johnston, Michelle Skowzgird, and Norman Weiss.

Our boys and girls basketball teams had their Winter Sports Banquet at Al Capone Restaurant. The following student-athletes received awards for their outstanding performances:

Junior Varsity Girls:

Most Improved Player—Miriam Hernandez

Coach Award—Marissa Salyer

Junior Varsity Boys:

Most Outstanding Player—Jose Resendiz

Most Improved Player—Jacques Miller

Coach Award—Thomas York

Varsity Girls:

Coach Award—Emily Forsberg

Most Improved Player—Montana Murphy

Most Valuable Player—Shani Ambrester

Varsity Boys:

Coach Award – Edward Schoonover

Most Outstanding Player – Chris Vega

Most Valuable Player—Raymond Nelson

Congratulations to these individuals for their accomplishments!

~ David Hamilton, Athletic Director*

*Coach Hamilton just surpassed Seymour Bernstein for the most career wins as the basketball coach in the school history. Seymour had 70 wins in his 11th season as the head coach while David has 71 wins in his 8th season.

~ Franklin Johnston, CSDR Athletics Statistician

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, RIVERSIDE

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PAWSitive Reflections
 News and Information for Families, Staff, & Friends



May 2011

monday	tuesday	wednes-day	thursday	friday	saturday
2	3	4	5	6 DeafNation	7 DeafNation
9	10	11	12	13	14
16	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28
30	31				

Mark Your Calendar . . .

For updates, sports, and other details, go to website school calendar

May: Deaf Hispanic Month	
5/3	CAC Meeting
5/3	Newcomer/Beginners ASL Classes for CSDR Families
5/2-6	Teacher Appreciation Week
5/5	Cinco de Mayo— Teacher Appreciation Lunch
5/5	Intermediate ASL Class for CSDR Families
5/6-7	DeafNation Expo at CSDR Front Lawn
5/10	Newcomer/Beginners ASL Classes for CSDR Families
5/12-14	High School Drama Performance
5/12	Intermediate ASL Class for CSDR Families
5/17	Newcomer/Beginners ASL Classes for CSDR Families
5/19	Intermediate ASL Class for CSDR Families
5/19	Deafhood Hispanic Interactive Workshop— In ASL Only
5/19-20	High School Prom
5/20	Middle School Class Bowl
5/20	Deafhood Hispanic Workshop— Voice Interpretation
5/23-26	IEP Week—No Classes
5/27	School Closed
5/30	Memorial Day—School Closed – Residential students return
5/31	Classes Resume
5/31	Special Needs Fashion Show
5/31	High School Multimedia Gallery
5/31	Newcomer/Beginners ASL Classes for CSDR Families

June: Deaf Minority Groups Month	
6/1-3	High School Multimedia Gallery Continued
6/2	Early Childhood Education Art Festival
6/2	Intermediate ASL Class for CSDR Families
6/3	Elementary Spelling Bee Finals
6/6-9	High School Final Exams
6/7	Math Olympiad
6/7	Newcomer/Beginners ASL Class for CSDR Families
6/9	Middle School/SN Orientation for Entry to High School
6/9	Middle School/SN Dorm/School Awards
6/9	Intermediate ASL Class for CSDR Families
6/10	School-wide End-of-Year Awards
6/14	Kindergarten/Elementary Graduation Day
6/14	Newcomer/Beginners ASL Class for CSDR Families
6/16	Middle and High School Graduation Day
6/16	Intermediate ASL Class for CSDR Families
6/17	Last day of school for students and teachers
6/24	Last day for TAs, specialists , and most supervisors